

Amendment to the Claims

Claims 16-18 were previously withdrawn.

Claims 1-13 and 22-42 were previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. – 13. (Canceled).

14. (Previously presented) A method of detecting Growth Differentiation Factor-7 (GDF-7) in a sample comprising:

contacting the sample with a substantially pure antibody, or an antigen binding fragment thereof, that specifically binds to a GDF-7 polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6, and detecting the binding of the GDF-7 antibody, thereby detecting GDF-7 in the sample.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the cell is a neural cell.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the detecting is *in vivo*.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, a bioluminescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the detection is *in vitro*.

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20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, a bioluminescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound and an enzyme.

22. - 42. (Canceled).